cifically attach these flies. The viral infections renders the flies sterile thereby exerting a check on their propagation.

(b) No similar R&D work has yet been taken up in hand in the country.

गंगा नदी की नौवहन क्षमता

3455. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गंगा को नौवहन योग्य नदी बनाने की योजना के संबंध में अभी तक क्या प्रगति हुई है और उन स्थानों के नाम क्या हैं जहां स्टीमर की सेवा प्रारम्भ कर दी गई है ; और

(ख) गंगा में कार कम्पनी द्वारा नौवहन सेवा को कब से समाप्त किया गया है और उसके स्थान पर कोई वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट) : (क) और (ख) छठे दशक में प्रारंभ तक संयुक्त स्टीमर कंपनी गंगा में नदी सेवाएं चलाती थी. किन्तु उसने प्रचालनों के अव्यवहारिक होने के कारण अपने प्रचालन बन्द कर दिए और कंपनी दिवालिया हो गई । इस समय गंगा भगीरथी हुगली नदी प्रणाली पटना और हल्दिया के बीच नौगम्य है । केन्द्रीय अन्तर्देशीय जल परिवहन निगम लिमिटेड द्वारा हल्दिया कलकत्ता और फरक्का तथा पटना के बीच नियमित कार्गो सेवा प्रचलित की जा रही है । पटना और इलाहाबाद के बीच नौगम्यता स्थापित करने की एक पायलट परियोजना शुरू की जा रही है ।

Appointment of Research Assistants in Ayurvedic system of Medicine

3456. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Research Assistants were initially appointed to work for the preparation of Ayurveda pharmacopica which comes under system of clinical duties and they have been appointed to the job of Research Assistants (Ayurvedic System of Medicine) and they have been debarred from the Non Practice Allowance and if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government propose to sortout these anomalies; if so, the details therefore; and

(c) whether non-clinical term is also applicable for 'Medical Degree Holder' as in the case of MBBS graduates, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) There are posts of Research Assistants (Ayurveda) in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for Ayurvedic Pharmacopica Committee. The work of Research Assistants is non-clinical in nature. Therefore, no Non Practice Allowance was attached to these posts.

(c) So far Non Practicing Allowance was allowed for technical posts of Indian Systems of Medicine assigned with clinical duties. A medical degree holder working against posts with non-clinical duties was not granted Non Practice Allowance.

The Fourth Pay Commission has recomended that "payment of N.P.A. may be extended to all other medical officers for whom a degree in medical science is prescribed as an essential qualification". Government have not taken a final view in this regard.

Material purchased for Railway wagon repair workshops in Madhya Pradesh

3457. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the material required for various Railway wagon repair workshops in

Madhya Pradesh are being centrally purchased by the headquarter of South Eastern Railway at Garden Reach, Calcutta;

(b) if so, what action is being taken to ensure that these purchases are made from the small scale and other industrial units of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether it is fact that the Railway Minister in April, 1987 during the Railway exhibition at Bhopal gave an assurance that in future maximum possible items would be purchased from the local industrial units;

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereon so far;

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken to establish and promote ancilliary units to meet the requirements of wagon repair workshops in Madhya Pradesh; and

(f) whether the guidelines issued by the Bureau of Public Enterprise on 5th May, 1978 in regard to establishment of ancilliary units are proposed to be followed by the Railway Board in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. Madhya Pradesh has one major workshop under Central Railway and one under South Eastern Railway. Procurement for most of the material is done by the headquarters of the respective zonal railways viz. Bombay & Calcutta respectively.

(b) Procurement of material for the railways is done based on competitive tendering, and small scale industrial units including those in Madhya Pradesh are eligible for price preference as per Government policy.

(c) No, Sir. The assurance given was in respect of rendering assistance to those proposing to set up industrial units locally under the aegies of Madhya Pradesh Government Industries Department by way of dissemination of information regarding specifications, annual requirements, guidance in technical and other matters to enable them to compete in the railway purchase programme.

(d) and (e) Guidelines have been issued to Central Railway for encouraging setting up of ancilliary industries in and around Madhya Pradesh for the new units being set up there.

(f) Instructions have been issued to 5 new units (3 workshops and 2 Production Units) for following the Bureau of Public Enterprises' guidelines in regard to development of ancilliary units, in harmony with Railways' Purchase Procedure.

Introduction of Air service between Bangalore and Singapore

3458. SHRI VEERSHETTY MOGLAPPA KUSHNOOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have informed Karnataka Government that they propose to introduce an Air bus service from Bangalore to Singapore and since customs and immigration facilities are not available, they are starting the same temporarily from Madras; and

(b) whether permission from the concerned authorities for establishment of Customs and immigration facilities at Bangalore airport has since been obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLERS): (a) Karnataka Chief Minister has since been informed that Indian Airlines have started Madras-Singapore flight with convenient connections to Bangalore. This flight could very well emanate from Bangalore, if necessary customs and immigration facilities were available.

(b) No, Sir.

New scheme for tourist promotion in Karnataka

3459. SHRI VEERSHETTY MOGLAPPA KUSHNOOR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of Karnataka has forwarded a number of schemes to the Central Government for construction of Yatrikas and creation of addi-